

Message Text

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SUBJ: FISCHER'S VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

1. GDR FONMIN OSKAR FISCHER WAS ACCORDED CORRECT RECEPTION DURING HIS OFFICIAL ISIT HERE APR 21-23. HE SAW VICE PRESIDENT STAMBOLIC AND PREMIER BIJEDIC AND HAD OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH HIS HOST, FONSEC MINIC. BUT WARMTH NORMALLY SHOWN A VISITING OFFICIAL FROM A SOCIALIST STATE WAS NOT IN EVIDENCE.

2. THE STIFFLY-WORDED COMMUNIQUE LACKED CONTENT. EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AND COMMITMENTS TO EXPAND VARIOUS TYPES OF EXCHANGES WERE MADE "IN AN OPEN AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE AND IN A SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING." JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED AT TIME OF TITO'S VISIT TO THE GDR LAST NOV WAS HELD UP AS BASIS FOR DEVELOPMENT IN RELATIONS, IN WHICH CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED IN PAST FEW MONTHS. A CURIOUS STATEMENT OMITTED FROM ENGLISH TANJUG SUMMARY OF COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT TWO MINISTERS "POSITIVELY EVALUATED THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THEIR TWO MINISTRIES AND DISCUSSED ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT", WITHOUT REFERENCE IN THAT CONTEXT TO STATE RELATIONS.

3. ON CSCE, MINS EMPHASIZED THAT "PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED"

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JUSTIFYING AN "EARLY" CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE. THEY

EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT CYPRUS AND ME CRISES.

4. COMMUNIQUE NOTED ONLY THAT YUGOSLAVS INFORMED FISCHER ABOUT ACTIVITY OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES. IT OMITTED FISCHER'S STATEMENT IN A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT HE AND MINIC HAD AGREED THAT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SHOULD HELP LDC'S ROUND OUT POLITICAL WITH ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND WIN CONTROL OVER DISPOTIONS OF THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES.

5. THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO MADE NO REFERENCE TO THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY VICTORY CELEBRATION. IN HIS ARRIVAL STATEMENT FISCHER REFERRED TO DECISIVE SOVIET ROLE IN VICTORY OVER FASCISM AND ALSO EAST GERMAN'S RESPECT FOR YUGOSLAV CONTRIBUTION. "WE KNOW THE DEEDS OF THE LIBERATION ARMY OF COMRADE JOSPI BROZ TITO AND THAT FACT MUST BE NOTED ON THIS OCCASIO", HE ADDED. IN HIS DINNER TOAST MINIC GAVE CREDIT TO GERMAN COMMUNISTS AND PATRIOTS WHO ALSO FOUGHT AGAINST FACISM "UNDER VERY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES". IN HIS RESPONSE, FISCHER AGAIN SPOKE OF DECISIVE SOVIET ROLE IN VICTORY AND NOTED HEAVY LOSSES SUFFERED BY YUGOSLAV ARMY WHICH, TOGETHER WITH SOVIETS, DROVE OUT THE INVADER AND HASTENED HIS DEFEAT. AFTER REFLECTING ON THESE STATEMENTS, PERHAPS THE TWO SIDES DECIDED IT WAS BETTER TO SAY NOTHING IN THE COMMUNIQUE.

6. COMMENT: THE COMMUNIQUE WAS THE COOLEST WE HAVE SEEN IN A LONG TIME, PARTICULARLY FOR A VISIT OF A FELLOW SOCIALIST.
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